



Florida House of Representatives

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HIGH-PERFORMANCE GOVERNMENT BILLS RACE THROUGH COMMITTEE

TALLAHASSEE, FL – Legislation making state government more efficient and responsive to Florida's citizens passed today in the House Governmental Affairs Policy Committee. Representative Robert Schenck (R-Spring Hill), Chair of the Governmental Affairs Policy Committee championed the four proposed committee bills (PCB) which include PCB 10-24 Procurement, PCB 10-25 the Department of Management Services, PCB 10-26 Claims for Collections Due the State, and PCB 10-30 State-Owned Real Property.

"During these tough economic times when Floridians are looking for ways to stretch their hard-earned dollars, they expect their state government to do the same," stated Schenck. "The House is putting state government under the microscope to uncover waste and excessive spending. I was shocked when I found out there are at least 7 different state databases that maintain a variety of information on state-owned real property with no coordination whatsoever. This is no way to run state government, and we in the House are committed to being good stewards of the taxpayers' dollars," concluded Schenck.

The four PCBs, part of the House's High- Performance Government proposals, will give Florida the tools to implement a more efficient government.

The following are the four PCB's and a short summary:

PCB GAP 10-24 PROCUREMENT

The bill addresses procurement processes, exemptions from competitive solicitation, the use of business plans for outsourcing, and coordination of procured contracted services. Specifically, it:

- Clarifies procurement processes by cleaning-up definitions, removing out-dated language, and combining provisions relating to those processes into one comprehensive section.
- Increases threshold limits based upon the CPI and rounding to the nearest \$5,000.
- Revises exemptions to the competitive solicitation processes. Repeals outdated provisions.

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- Repeals the Council on Efficient Government, a statutorily-created advisory body, charged with reviewing business plans for outsourcing. The Council has only met twice a year for the past 3 years. Its work is advisory only--reviews cases & makes reports to Legislature and Governor.
- Retains statutory requirements for business cases for outsourcing for projects more than \$10 million and requires those to go through the legislative budget request (LBR) process. Retains requirements for outsourced contracts and strengthens contractual requirements relating to protection of state interests regarding intellectual property; and
- Requires coordination of contract management for health and human services that spans certain agencies and their contracted service providers.

PCB GAP 10-25

REVIEW OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT SERVICES UNDER THE FLORIDA GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

PCB 10-25 is the result of the review of the Department of Management Services (DMS) under the Florida Government Accountability Act. It creates efficiencies in state government and has the potential of having a positive fiscal impact on state revenue.

To do this, it establishes the DMS under the Governor and the Cabinet and makes several other changes.

- The PCB requires the electronic filing of paperwork for hearings held under the Division of Administrative Hearings for parties represented by an attorney.
- It repeals the State Employee Wellness Council, a council appointed by the Governor. This council has not met its statutory obligation and was recommended for repeal by OPPAGA.
- It creates statewide standards for the agency assignment of cell phones, blackberries, and other wireless communication devices. And it requires agencies to use state term contracts or Suncom services for wireless device and service plans to maximize cost savings.
- The PCB requires agencies to report, as part of their legislative budget request (LBR) an inventory of wireless communication device and related expenses, and explain cost-saving measures.
- And finally, the PCB directs DMS to centralize a fleet of state-owned motor vehicles and submit a plan of action to do so by November 1, 2010.

PCB GAP 10-26

CLAIMS FOR COLLECTIONS DUE THE STATE

- This PCB creates greater transparency and accountability in our state revenue collection of delinquent accounts.
- The PCB sets a time certain, of 120 days, for agencies to report delinquent accounts to the Department of Financial Services for collection.
- It requires agencies to submit an annual report detailing delinquent accounts that were referred for collection, those that were not referred for collection, and a list of all accounts that were waived or written off for any reason.
- And lastly, it requires the Chief Financial Officer to submit an annual report on any collection agent used. The report must include the amount of claims referred for collection, the number of accounts by age, a listing of agencies that failed to report known delinquent accounts in a timely manner, and the total amount collected.

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- Because the PCB encourages timely collection on accounts, this PCB will likely have a positive fiscal impact on state government revenues.

PCB GAP 10-30
STATE-OWNED REAL PROPERTY

- Currently there are at least 7 different state databases that maintain a variety of information on state-owned real property. This has led to inefficiencies, redundancy in state government, as well as gaps in information.
- This PCB creates a comprehensive database of state-owned real property using a database under development in the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).
- This PCB directs the Department of Management Services to provide necessary state building inventory data to DEP, and also provides the Department of Revenue the ability to share tax roll information with DEP for the database.
- A comprehensive database will allow for the collection of data and operating costs in a centralized location and allow for consideration of future developments; including the need for certain facilities and whether any state property should be considered for a surplus sale.
- This PCB creates greater government efficiencies and will lead to cost-savings through the elimination of redundant databases.
- The Department of Management Services and the Department of Environmental Protection report that this database can be completed using current resources.
- As such, there is no cost associated with this PCB. Instead, the Department of Environmental Protection estimates it will save \$100,000 annually through the elimination of duplicative databases.

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